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DEPARTMENT FOR ECA/PE/V/R/N SABED-KOTOB, JKREISER; ECA/PE/V/M
AMOYLAN; LGOMEZ
INFO FOR NEA/PPD, NEA/ELA

SENSITIVE, SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: FY20010 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM NOMINATION SLATE FROM
SYRIA

¶1. (SBU) The following, in priority order, is the Mission's FY2010 slate of 30 International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) selections and nominees as determined by the post IVLP selection committee. Post's allocation for FY2010 is 28 slots. This slate includes two Single Country Programs (SCP): "Sustainable Urban Development in the U.S." and "Preventing Domestic Violence and Abuse." (See paragraphs three and four.)

¶2. (SBU) Programs and nominees:

RP: U.S. Foreign Policy, April 5-16, 2010
(1) Candidate: Nizar Maihoub

MRP: Small Business Development, May 24-June 11, 2010
(2) Candidate: Kareem Tabah

RP: Political Cartoonists, June 21-July 9, 2010
(3) Candidate: Khaled Katta

SCP: Sustainable Urban Development in the U.S., October-November 2009

(4) Candidate: Mazen Azmeh
(5) Candidate: Mr. Haitham Raihawi
(6) Candidate: Mr. Jalal Fakhoury
(7) Candidate: Mr. Yaman Al-Rasouk
(8) Candidate: Ms. Mona Bishara
(9) Candidate: Mr. Sauhail Abdulatif
(10) Candidate: Mr. Khaled Al-Kheder
(11) Candidate: Ms. Reem Balbaky
(12) Candidate: Ms. Khira Eid

SCP: Preventing Domestic Violence and Abuse, October-November, 2009

(13) Candidate: Hala Hamami
(14) Candidate: Jack Claude Naddaf
(15) Candidate: Nabila Fattal
(16) Candidate: Norma Ibrahim
(17) Candidate: Lama Asaad
(18) Candidate: Ghazi Shammat
(19) Candidate: Maissa Hasan
(20) Candidate: Yaser Mualla

MRP: Accountability in Government and Business, September-October, 2010

(21) Candidate: Ms. Maha Suleiman Nasser

MRP: Combating Trafficking in Persons, October 26-November 6, 2009

(22) Candidate: Roy Georgiades

RP: Interfaith Dialogue, March 8-26, 2010

(23) Candidate: Sahar Abu Harb

RP: Promoting Rule of Law and Judicial Reform, September 7-24, 2010
(24) Candidate: Ibrahim Draji

MRP: Economy and Business Reporting in the U.S., February 22-March 5, 2010

(25) Candidate: Jihad Yazigi

MRP: Teaching English as a Second Language, March 15-April 2, 2010

(26) Candidate: Rula Al-Hussari

RP: Volunteerism in America, February 8-26, 2010

(27) Candidate: Dima Mekdad

MRP: Adult Education and Community Colleges in US, February 1-19, 2010

(28) Candidate: Laila Kabab

RP: Use of Technology in the Classroom, May 10-28, 2010

(29) Candidate: Dana Deirani

MRP: The Role of NGOs in Promoting Global Women's Issues, June 14-July 2, 2010

(30) Candidate: Ms. Rania Idlibi

RP: Tourism Development, July 12-23, 2010

(31) Candidate: Rasin Martini

SINGLE COUNTRY PROGRAMS

¶3. (SBU) Post proposes a SCP for Syria with the title "Preventing Domestic Violence and Abuse." A small number of women's shelters and an abuse hotline currently exist in Damascus, catering to both Syrian women and Iraqi refugees who have been abused and/or trafficked. It is a Mission priority to help both communities and to highlight for the general public and the Syrian government the importance of protecting women and families from abuse. The program can be based on the existing RP offered for FY2010, with the

SYRIA

addition of one or two days of conflict resolution training at a U.S. university. The training will help the volunteers work better with a religiously and ethnically diverse clientele. The program will include 5-8 volunteers who work with NGOs and shelters providing protection and healthcare services to abused women and children. The preferred timeframe for the program is the first two weeks of October 2009 due to the university schedules of several of the participants.

¶4. (SBU) Post proposes a second SCP for Syria with the title "Sustainable Urban Development." A huge population boom, combined with urban sprawl, limited water resources, insufficient electrical capacity, illegal housing and inadequate sewage systems are just a few of the challenges confronting urban planners in Syria. Syria's sprawling bureaucracy and outdated laws are ill-equipped to cope with the challenges of the 21st century. Urban planners arguing for sustainable development are often outnumbered by wealthy businessmen who want to promote tourism or factories at the expense of the environment or the surrounding community. This SCP is an opportunity for Syrian participants to explore sustainable development practices to reduce air and water pollution, to improve sanitation and waste management, to improve the transportation infrastructure, and the provision of water, electricity and other utilities. This 9 person team of Syrians will be led by the private sector urban planning consultant who is advising the Syrian government. The additional team members represent the key action officers in Syria's governorates: Aleppo, Homs, Damascus and Al-Jazeera. This SCP will be an ideal opportunity for the team to coordinate their urban planning vision for Syria, develop concrete plans, and gain experience and ideas from the U.S. experience. The proposed timeframe for this program is between mid October and early November, 2009.

¶5. (U) Post has submitted individual nominations for each program through EVDB.

CONNELLY